

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the correspondence filed 04/01/2010.

Claims 1 and 3-5 have been amended.

Claims 8-10 are new.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-10 are allowed.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-10 have been examined and are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/01/2010 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-10 allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: applying a hardenable liquid in the form of multiple lines to an outer and/or inner side of the filter element by discharging the liquid from one or more nozzles while moving at least one of the nozzles relative to the filter element to form multiple lines thereon, and applying the liquid lines to form one or more rings which surround the tubular filter element, by fixing

one or more nozzles in the longitudinal direction relative to the tubular filter element, while rotating the tubular filter element a number of rotations about a longitudinal axis thereof, and oscillating one or more nozzles with an oscillation greater than or equal to a distance between two rings and smaller than or equal to the length of the filter element, thereby applying and forming connecting lines between the rings, the rings and the connecting lines be in the form of a lattice, and hardening the multiple liquid lines to form a stiffening net which is integral with the tubular filter element, thereby forming the stiffened tubular filter element, could not be found within the prior art.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMBER ORLANDO whose telephone number is (571)270-3149. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. (6:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on (571) 272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AO

/Walter D. Griffin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797